

SURFACE WATER CLASSIFICATION

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Surface Water Classification

A. Key to the order of streams.

- (1) Streams are listed in downstream to upstream sequence within a basin.
- (2) Major streams (1st order) are described in entirety from downstream end to upstream end, before listing their tributary (2nd order) streams.
- (3) Tributary (2nd order) streams (if any) are then listed in downstream to upstream sequence, and each is described in entirety before listing its tributaries (3rd order), or before listing the next upstream 2nd order tributary.
- (4) When a stream and all its tributaries are described in entirety, the next upstream equal order stream is then listed and described.
- (5) The scheme is repeated through 3rd, 4th and 5th orders, as necessary.
- (6) The relationship of tributaries is indicated in the list by the slashes on the left margin. 3rd order tributaries are given one slash, 4th order tributaries are given two slashes, and so on.

Example:

MAJOR RIVER – RIVER A. AND ITS TRIBUTARIES

River A.

RIVER B. AND ITS TRIBUTARIES

River B.

\ River C.

\ \ Creek A.

\ River D.

\ \ Creek B.

\ \ \ Stream A.

\ \ Creek C.

River A is the 1st order stream. River B is a 2nd order tributary of River A. River C is a 3rd order tributary of River B. Creek A is a 4th order tributary of River C. River D is another 3rd order tributary of River B. Creek B is a 4th order tributary of River D. Stream A is a 5th order tributary of Creek B. Creek C is another 4th order tributary of River D.

- (7) In every basin except the Southern Iowa River Basin, the “MAJOR RIVER” is the 1st order stream for the entire basin. All of the streams with a capitalized and underlined heading listed after the major river are 2nd order tributaries of the major river. In the Southern Basin, all of the streams flowing out of Iowa from the south are given the “MAJOR RIVER” heading, as they are not tributaries to any stream in Iowa.

- (8) Stream names are in accordance with "Drainage Areas of Iowa Streams," U.S. Geological Survey, March 1974. Locally known names are used for streams not listed therein.
- (9) Each waterbody has an associated waterbody number to aid in locating them in their corresponding basin. An alphabetical index containing the waterbody number and the counties the waterbody is in is located at the beginning of each basin and the Lakes and Wetlands section. When two counties are listed for a waterbody, the first county indicates the location of the mouth or lower limit and the second county indicates the location of the upper limit.

B. Water use designation abbreviations.

"A" means contact recreation uses. "A1" means primary contact recreation uses, "A2" means secondary contact recreation uses, and "A3" means children's contact recreation uses. All perennial rivers and streams as identified by the U.S. Geological Survey 1:100,000 DLG Hydrography Data Map (published July 1993) and intermittent streams with perennial pools in Iowa have been designated as "Class A1". If the stream or river has been assessed and the UA/UAA demonstrates that a "Class A1" use is not attainable, pursuant to the factors set forth in 40 C.F.R. 131.10(g), the use designation may change to be either a Class A2, a Class A3, or no recreational use. If the stream or river has been assessed and the UA/UAA affirms that a "Class A1" use is attainable or the stream or river was previously designated as Class A1 prior to March 22, 2006 the stream or river will have a non-bolded "X" in the "A1" column. If the stream or river has not been assessed for recreational uses, a bolded "**X**" will be in the "A1" column.

"B" means wildlife and aquatic life uses. "WW-1" means warm water – type 1, "WW-2" means warm water – type 2, and "WW-3" means warm water type 3. "LW" means lakes and wetlands warm water, "CW1" means cold water – type 1, and "CW2" means cold water – type 2.

"C" means raw water source of potable water supply.

"HH" means human health

"HQ" means high quality water.

"HQR" means high quality resource water.

C. Stream abbreviations.

"R." means river.

"Cr." means creek.

"Br." means branch.

"Fk." means fork.

"D. D." means drainage ditch.

"a.k.a." means also known as.

"E." "W." "N." "S." are compass directions.

D. Location abbreviations.

“R” means range.

“T” means township.

“S” means section.

“Rd.” means road.

“Hwy.” means highway.

“Co.” means county.

“St.” means street.

“NE,” “NW,” “SE,” and “SW,” are quarter sections.

E. Lake Abbreviations.

“S.W.M.A.” means State Wildlife Management Area.

“S.G.M.A.” means State Game Management Area.

“S.P.H.A.” means State Public Hunting Area.

“S.P.H.&R.A.” means State Public Hunting and Recreation Area.

“S.F.G.A.” means State Fish and Game Area.

“S.G.A.” means State Game Area.

“S.H.A.” means State Hunting Area.

“S.W.A.” means State Wildlife Area.

“S.W.R.” means State Wildlife Refuge.

“S.R.A.” means State Recreation Area.

“W.A.” means Wildlife Area.

“W.R.” means Wildlife Refuge.

“W.R.A.” means Wildlife Reserve Area.

“W.M.A.” means Wildlife Management Area.

“W.P.A.” means Waterfowl Production Area.

“W. & R.A.” means Wildlife and Recreation Area.

“G.M.A.” means Game Management Area.

“N.R.A.” means Natural Resource Area.

“N.A.” means Natural Area.

“R.A.” means Recreation Area.

“N.W.R.” means National Wildlife Refuge.

“N.F.W.R.” means National Fish and Wildlife Refuge.